

# VECTOR SPACES

IDEA: Abstract our understanding of linear systems...  
↳ Build a language to prove more powerful theorems.

Def<sup>n</sup>: A (real) vector space is a set  $V$   
(whose elements are vectors) with operations

(hidden)  
closure  
axioms

$$\left( \begin{array}{ll} + : \underline{V} \times \underline{V} \longrightarrow \underline{V} & (\text{vector addition}) \\ \cdot : \mathbb{R} \times \underline{V} \longrightarrow \underline{V} & (\text{scalar multiplication}) \end{array} \right)$$

satisfying the following axioms:

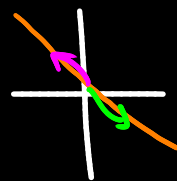
- ①  $u + v = v + u$  for all  $u, v \in V$  (Commutativity of Addition)
- ②  $u + (v + w) = (u + v) + w$  for all  $u, v, w \in V$  (Associativity of Addition)
- ③ There is a vector  $0 \in V$  such that (Zero vector)  
for all  $v \in V$   $0 + v = v$ . NB:  $0$  is the zero-vector
- ④ For all  $v \in V$  there is a vector (Additive inverses)  
 $w \in V$  such that  $v + w = 0$ . NB: usually we denote  $w = -v$ .
- ⑤  $a \cdot (u + v) = (a \cdot u) + (a \cdot v)$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  (Scalar distribution over vector addition)  
and all  $u, v \in V$ .
- ⑥  $(a + b) \cdot v = (a \cdot v) + (b \cdot v)$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  (Vector distribution over scalar addition)  
and all  $v \in V$ .
- ⑦  $a \cdot (b \cdot v) = (ab) \cdot v$  for all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  (Associativity of Scalar multiplication)  
 $\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$  and all  $v \in V$ .
- ⑧  $1 \cdot v = v$  for all  $v \in V$ . (Scalar Identity).

Ex:  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is a vector space for all  $n$ .  
(we verified this awhile back).

Ex: Let  $V = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x = -y\}$ . With operations

$$(x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2)$$

$$\text{and } c \cdot (x, y) = (cx, cy),$$



this set  $V$  is a vector space.

Pf: First we need to show for  $u, v \in V$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$   
we have  $u + v \in V$  and  $c \cdot v \in V$ .

(i.e. closure of  $V$  under addition and scalar mult).

Let  $u, v \in V$  and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ . So  $u = (u_1, u_2)$

and  $v = (v_1, v_2)$  satisfy  $u_1 = -u_2$  and  $v_1 = -v_2$ .

Now  $u + v = (u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) = (\underline{u_1 + v_1}, \underline{u_2 + v_2})$  and

we know  $u_1 + v_1 = (-u_2) + (-v_2) = -(u_2 + v_2)$ , so

$u + v \in V$ . On the other hand,

$cu = c(u_1, u_2) = (cu_1, cu_2)$  and because

$u_1 = -u_2$ , we have  $cu_1 = c(-u_2) = -(cu_2)$ ,

and hence  $cu \in V$ . Hence  $V$  is closed  
under vector addition and scalar multiplication.

Next we verify the 8 <sup>(remaining)</sup> conditions on a vector space:

Let  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ ,  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ ,  $w = (w_1, w_2) \in V$  and  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ :

① (Commutativity):

$$\begin{aligned}u + v &= (u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2) = (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2) \\&= (v_1 + u_1, v_2 + u_2) = (v_1, v_2) + (u_1, u_2) = v + u \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

② (Associativity of Vec. add.)

$$\begin{aligned}u + (v + w) &= (u_1, u_2) + ((v_1, v_2) + (w_1, w_2)) \\&= (u_1, u_2) + (v_1 + w_1, v_2 + w_2) \\&= (u_1 + (v_1 + w_1), u_2 + (v_2 + w_2)) \\&= ((u_1 + v_1) + w_1, (u_2 + v_2) + w_2) \\&= (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2) + (w_1, w_2) \\&= ((u_1, u_2) + (v_1, v_2)) + (w_1, w_2) \\&= (u + v) + w\end{aligned}$$

③ We claim  $0_V = \underline{(0, 0)}$  is the zero-vector for  $V$ .

$$\text{Indeed, } 0_V + v = (0, 0) + (v_1, v_2) = (0 + v_1, 0 + v_2) = (v_1, v_2) = v.$$

$$\text{Moreover, } 0 = -0, \text{ so } (0, 0) \in V.$$

④ (Additive Inverses). For vector  $v$ , we have

$$v + (-v_1, -v_2) = (v_1, v_2) + (-v_1, -v_2) = (v_1 - v_1, v_2 - v_2) = (0, 0)$$

$$\text{on the other hand } (-v_1, -v_2) = -1 \cdot (v_1, v_2) = -1 \cdot v \in V.$$

⑤ (Distribution 1).

$$\begin{aligned}a \cdot (u + v) &= a \cdot (u_1 + v_1, u_2 + v_2) = (a(u_1 + v_1), a(u_2 + v_2)) \\&= (au_1 + av_1, au_2 + av_2) = (au_1, au_2) + (av_1, av_2) \\&= (a \cdot u) + (a \cdot v)\end{aligned}$$

⑥ (distribution 2).

$$\begin{aligned}(a+b) \cdot V &= ((a+b)v_1, (a+b)v_2) \\ &= (av_1 + bv_1, av_2 + bv_2) \\ &= (av_1, av_2) + (bv_1, bv_2) \\ &= (a \cdot V) + (b \cdot V)\end{aligned}$$

⑦ (Scalar association)

$$\begin{aligned}a \cdot (b \cdot V) &= a \cdot (bv_1, bv_2) = (a(bv_1), a(bv_2)) \\ &= ((ab)v_1, (ab)v_2) = (ab) \cdot V\end{aligned}$$

⑧ (Scalar unit)

$$1 \cdot V = 1 \cdot (v_1, v_2) = (1v_1, 1v_2) = (v_1, v_2) = V$$

Hence  $V$  is a vector space under these operations!  $\square$

Remark: These checks are mostly just the same work we did showing properties of vect. add. earlier...

Ex: Let  $P_n(\mathbb{R})$  denote the set of polynomials with real coefficients and degree at most  $n$ .

Let  $+: P_n(\mathbb{R}) \times P_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_n(\mathbb{R})$  be the usual polynomial addition, and scalar multiplication

$\cdot: \mathbb{R} \times P_n(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_n(\mathbb{R})$  be the usual multiplication.

Then  $P_n(\mathbb{R})$  is a vector space.

Special Case: When  $n=3$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} P_3(\mathbb{R}) &= \{p(x) : p(x) \text{ has degree at most } 3\} \\ &= \{a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 : a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3 \in \mathbb{R}\} \end{aligned}$$

And the addition acts like so:

$$\begin{aligned} (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) + (b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3) \\ = (a_0 + b_0) + (a_1 + b_1)x + (a_2 + b_2)x^2 + (a_3 + b_3)x^3 \end{aligned}$$

and scalar multiplication works like that:

$$c(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3) = (ca_0) + (ca_1)x + (ca_2)x^2 + (ca_3)x^3$$

↳ Check the conditions are satisfied!  $\square$

Ex: Let  $m, n \geq 1$ . The set

$$M_{m,n}(\mathbb{R}) = \{A : A \text{ is an } m \times n \text{ matrix w/ real entries}\}$$

is a vector space under matrix addition  
and entry-wise scalar multiplication.  $\square$

Ex: Let  $V = \{f : f \text{ is a function } \mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$ .

Define  $(f+g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$  and  $(cf)(x) = cf(x)$

then  $V$  is a vector space under these operations.

↳ Very GOOD exercise to verify this...

Prop: Let  $V$  be a vector space.

①  $0 \cdot v$  =  $0_v$  for all  $v \in V$ .

①  $-1 \cdot v$  is the additive inverse of  $v$  for all  $v \in V$ .

②  $c \cdot 0_v$  =  $0_v$

pf: Let  $V$  be a vector space and let  $v \in V$  be arbitrary.

①  $0 \cdot v$  =  $(0 + 0) \cdot v = \underline{(0 \cdot v)} + (0 \cdot v)$

Hence, letting  $w$  denote the additive inverse of  $0 \cdot v$

we have  $(0 \cdot v) + \underline{((0 \cdot v) + w)} = 0 \cdot v + 0_v = 0_v$

while  $\underline{((0 \cdot v) + (0 \cdot v))} + w = 0 \cdot v + w = 0_v$

Hence we have  $0 \cdot v = 0_v$  as desired.

Rest of proof is next time...

□